## U.S. Department of Labor

MAY -6 2004

Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training Washington, D.C. 20210



The Honorable Ernie Fletcher Governor of Kentucky 700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Governor Fletcher:

It is with pleasure that I respond to the Commonwealth of Kentucky's request for extension of a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) waiver granted to extend the period of initial eligibility of training providers at 20 CFR 663.530, under the Secretary's authority to waive certain requirements of WIA Title I, subtitles B and E and Sections 8-10 of the Wagner-Peyser Act. The original waiver was granted through January 1, 2004.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky's request for a waiver extension (copy enclosed) indicates that, in working to achieve compliance, the Commonwealth has experienced continuing difficulty in acquiring performance data from potential training providers. Additionally, the Commonwealth cites a need for additional time to work with Commonwealth educational agencies in an effort to provide eligible customers with the best possible choices of training institutions. The Commonwealth requests an extension of the waiver through June 30, 2005. The waiver is written in accordance with WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c) and appears to meet the standard for waiver approval at 20 CFR 661.420(e).

Accordingly, the Commonwealth of Kentucky is granted an extension of its waiver to extend the period of initial eligibility of training providers at 20 CFR 663.530 through June 30, 2005, as requested. The granted waiver extension is incorporated by reference into the Commonwealth's WIA Grant Agreement, as provided for under paragraph 3 of the executed Agreement, and also constitutes a modification of the Commonwealth's approved five-year strategic plan. A copy of the letter should be filed with the Commonwealth's WIA Grant Agreement and approved five-year plan, as appropriate.

We look forward to helping you achieve better workforce investment outcomes and improve the lives of many Kentucky residents. Furthermore, we are prepared to entertain other Commonwealth and local-level waiver requests that the Commonwealth may wish to submit, consistent with the provisions of WIA and the regulations.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at (202) 693-2700.

Sincerely,

Envily Stover DeRocco

Enclosure